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John W. Kinnaird Dies; In OSS in World War II

John W. Kinnaird, 55, a member of the team that parachuted into occupied China to arrange the Japanese surrender in Hankow during World War II, died Saturday of cancer at his home on Beechwood Road in College Park.

At the time of his death he was a professor of English at the University of Maryland.

Mr. Kinnaird's special interest in academic life was romanticism, a field in which he published many articles as well as a book, "William Hazlitt: Critic of Power." In recent years he also became interested in fantasy and science fiction as extensions of the romantic imagination. His book, a reader's guide to the science fiction of the British philosopher, Olaf Stapledon, is to be published soon.

Before joining the Maryland faculty in 1965, Mr. Kinnaird taught at Bucknell and Rutgers universities and at Vassar College.

Mr. Nelson was born in Nelsonville, N.Y., and received a B.A. degree from the University of California at Berkeley, where he majored in Chinese studies.

During World War II he served with the Office of Strategic Services, a predecessor of the Central Intelligence Agency, during which he parachuted into occupied China at the end of the conflict.

After the war he was a reporter

for the Newburgh (N.Y.) News before returning to academic life. He received his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia University and also studied for two years on a Fulbright fellowship at Jesus College, Oxford.

He leaves his wife, the former Joan Kennedy; two sons, John and Stephen; and a sister, Mrs. Wesley Curtis of Springfield, Mo.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. tomorrow in Notre Dame Chapel, Trinity College, Michigan Avenue and Franklin Street NE.